



KELLS-GRENNIE NEWS

AUGUST 1957
VOLUME 11
BOOK 8

POST OFFICE BOX 13 2750 Amboy Road Staten Island 6 New York

THE COMMANDER SOUNDS OFF...

As this is my first message to you, I want to thank each and every one of you for electing me Commander of KELLS-GRENNIE POST #316, for a second term, and assure you I will do my utmost to make it a good year.

One of my first duties will be to appoint officers and committee chairmen, the list of which shall appear elsewhere in this first issue of K-G NEWS. I say "first" but actually we had a K-G NEWS before, but this is the first since 1955. This will probably be the only way we'll be able to reach some of our membership. ... since the membership won't come out to the Post meetings. Won't you please come out and find out what's going on at the Post first hand? I promise you we'll try to keep the meetings from getting too long. You can still see some of the night games on our 21 inch T V set after the meetings while refreshments are being served ON THE HOUSE!!! Come on out and air that gripe, and if you have a suggestion, we'd like to hear that too. That's what we're here for. If you are in trouble, see us; if you are ill, see us; if you are in the hospital, call us and we'll come to see you, but at least let us see you.

Try to make the next meeting, we hold them on the second and fourth Friday of the month.

Sincerely for the Legion,

(Signed) LOUIS J. SOMMA

COMMANDER

NEW OFFICERS INSTALLED

Our June 28th meeting saw the following officers elected, and installed immediately by Frank Rooney:

COMMANDER
VICE COMMANDER
VICE COMMANDER
VICE COMMANDER

LOUIS J. SOMMA
LOUIS LOMANGINO
PHILIP KOLB
RAY SWANSON

HO 6-2291-J
EL 1-2327

SA 7-0649

2.

KELLS-GRENNIE NEWS

NEW OFFICERS INSTALLED - Continued

Chaplain	LOUIS PIETRANGELO	EL 1-0305
Treasurer	EDWARD TIETJEN	HO 6-3125
Sgt. at Arms	JAMES WICKER	
Service Officer	LEO BALBACH	GI 7-9021
Historian	LEO BALBACH	GI 7-9021
Judge Advocate	FRANK ROONEY	SA 7-6179

APPOINTMENTS ANNOUNCED

Americanism	Charles Nolan
Back to God	Louis Pietrangelo
Photographer	William Cogan
Blood Bank	Andrew Procopio
Sick Visitation	Louis Lomangino
Constitution & By-Laws	Frank Rooney and Joseph Miller
Annual Veterans Mass	John Kreider
Publicity	Joseph Miller
Welfare	Leo Balbach and John Kreider
Legislation	Edward Curry
Audit-Budget-Finance	Parry McNair, Frank Rooney
	George Hahn, William Torgeson
House Chairman	Andrew Procopio
Graves Registration	Andrew Procopio
Membership	Joseph Miller
Public Safety	Louis Pietrangelo
Community Organization Liaison	Louis Pietrangelo
Boys State	Ray Swanson
Bowling	Ray Swanson

MEMBERSHIP

Article VIII, Section 3 of our Constitution and By-Laws states, in part, that any member whose dues have not been paid by April 1st, shall be suspended from all privileges and if he is still under suspension by December 31st of such year, his membership in this Post shall be forfeited.

The following list of members, according to our records, still have not paid their dues for 1957, although four notices have been sent to them. In order to preserve their continuity of membership, they should immediately send their dues to the Membership Chairman, Joseph R. Miller, 76 Bay Street, Staten Island 1, New York. DON'T DELAY.

William Aninowsky
Vincent Catalano
Derenda Cozine

Joseph P. Bieling
John Lincoln Counell
Bernard Daquila

Charles Casesa
Raymond P. Connors, Jr.
Walter H. Eley

UNPAID DUES FOR 1957 - continued

Gregory Faljean
William E. Fisher
Henry Flattery
Peter Galimberti
William Gendvil
Daniel A. Grande
Herbert E. Greene
Marcelle Hagerman
Francis G. Hayes
Robert Hemmes

Carl J. Iaturo
William B. Killen
William R. Krippa
James McDermott
Alfred A. Maddox
John E. Mann
George Marino
John Mouner
Soren Nielsen
Thomas Orr

Joseph Pistilli
Harold B. Quale
Harold F. Rigney
Murray Rosenblum
Albert F. Somma
Jerome Stamberger
Edwin G. Thompson
Amos J. Whitworth
Joseph E. Zipprich
William A. Young

YOUR SERVICE OFFICER SPEAKS

By Leo D'A. Balbach

Commander Lou Somma advises me that the "KELLS-GRENNIE NEWS" has been reinstated in miniature form and has requested that I submit a monthly column for the edification of our members. This I will gladly do in my dual capacity as Post Service Officer, and Veteran Counselor of the New York State Division of Veterans' Affairs located at Room 113, 36 Richmond Terrace, St. George, Staten Island. Gibraltar 7-9021, where you can contact me if you have any problems.

It is estimated that thousands of veterans throughout the United States are losing large sums of money because they don't know what benefits are available and don't understand the routine of getting them. It can be safely estimated that New York State has its proportionate share of these cases. New cases are constantly turning up at my office in which veterans or their dependents have suffered tragic loss of available benefits simply because they failed to take the right step

at the right time to insure themselves against such losses. Regardless of what your thoughts or questions may be, contact me and I will be more than glad to try and give you the correct answer.

Recently I received many questions concerning connection between U.S. Social Security benefits and VA non-service connected pensions. In order to clarify the relationship between these two federal benefits in this explanation, veterans have been divided into two groups:

- 1) totally and permanently disabled veterans age 65 and older, and
- 2) totally and permanently disabled veterans between the ages of 50 and 64.

In regards to the first group the fact that they receive VA PENSIONS does not affect their Social Security payments which are granted because of age. Moreover, the only effect that Social Security benefits have on VA pensions is (over)

YOUR SERVICE OFFICER SPEAKS -Continued

in regard to yearly income limitations. On the other hand, whenever those in the second group receive Social Security benefits because of disability and also receive VA pension benefits, an amount equal to the amount they receive in VA pension benefits is deducted by the Social Security Administration from their Social Security benefits. For example, if a veteran between ages 50 and 64 receives Social Security payments for disability in the amount of \$108.50 a month and VA pension in the amount of \$66.15 a month, his Social Security payments will be reduced to \$42.35 a month. The total amount, received by the veteran from both federal benefits will be \$108.50. In such cases, however, when the veteran reaches age 65, the amount deducted from his Social Security payments between ages 50 and 64 will be discontinued and he will receive his full amount of Social Security plus VA pension which is automatically increased to \$78.75 at age 65. In case of the example the veteran then would receive a total of \$177.25 upon attaining that age. This explanation, of course, assumes the veteran meets all eligibility requirements for both federal benefits.

LOANS \ World War II veterans have until July 25, 1958 to apply for a GI loan. The former deadline was July 25, 1957. Now, if a lender has at least agreed to make the loan to the veteran applicant and has requested approval from the VA by the new cut-off

LOANS - Continued

date, an additional year is allowed after July 25, 1958 to complete the transaction of the loan.

LEGISLATION

A subcommittee of the House of Representatives Armed Services Committee is conducting hearings on HR 1108 and similar bills which propose to take post-service behavior into consideration when reviewing bad discharges. Under present law, behavior since discharge is not a factor which is considered in reviewing bad discharges.

SATURDAY NITE - AUGUST 10

You are cordially invited to attend our Installation of Officers for the 1957-8 Term.

Refreshments will be served immediately following the short ceremonies which commence at 8:30 P.M. Admission is FREE and members should bring their wives, as this is an open meeting and there will be dancing to the juke-box after the buffet supper.

LET'S ALL ATTEMPT AND BE ON HAND TO WISH THE NEW STAFF A SUCCESSFUL YEAR.

SEE YOU

SATURDAY NITE

AUGUST 10, 1957!